

Application No. 10/664,640
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 1-6 is respectfully acknowledged.

Claims 1-6 have been amended only to correct the informalities pointed out by the Examiner.

No new matter has been added and no new issues with respect to patentability have been raised, and it is respectfully submitted that the amendments to claims 1-6 are clearly not related to patentability and do not narrow the scope of the claims either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the amendments to claims 1-6 be approved and entered, and it is respectfully submitted that amended claims 1-6 are now in condition for immediate allowance.

RE: NEW CLAIMS 8-12

Rejected claim 7 has been canceled, without prejudice, and new claims 8-13 have been added.

Independent claims 8, 10 and 13 have been prepared based on the subject matter of allowable claims 1, 3 and 6; claim 11 has

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been prepared based on the subject matter of allowable claims 2 and 4; and claims 9 and 12 have been prepared based on the disclosure in the specification at, for example, page 10, lines 8-20 and page 15, lines 7-18.

It is respectfully submitted that new claims 8-13 are fully supported by the disclosure in the specification, and that new claims 8-13 patentably distinguish over all of the cited prior art references along with allowable claims 1-6.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that new claim 8-13 be approved and entered, and allowed.

CLAIM FEE

The application was originally filed with 7 claims of which 4 were independent, and the appropriate claim fee was paid. The application now contains 12 claims, of which 6 are independent. Accordingly, a claim fee in the amount of \$400 for the addition of 2 extra independent claims is attached hereto. In addition, authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees which may be required to Account No. 06-1378.

RE: THE SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended to correct some minor informalities of which the undersigned has become aware,

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including the informalities pointed out by the Examiner. No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the specification be approved and entered, and that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

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In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,


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